

In the Claims

Please delete Claims 6, 14, 21 and 26-27 without prejudice. Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a surface tracker, comprising the steps of:
inserting an electronic marker in a marker body, the electronic marker being adapted to emit a locating signal;
sealing the electronic marker within the marker body; and
attaching a visual indicator to said marker body, said visual indicator extending away from said marker body, wherein the visual indicator comprises a plurality of resilient filaments, and said attaching step includes the steps of inserting the filaments in a hole formed at one end of the marker body, folding the filaments where they pass through the hole, and securing the filaments to the end of the marker body.
2. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the marker body is elongate, and said attaching step attaches the visual indicator in such a manner that the visual indicator extends away from the marker body along a longitudinal axis thereof.
3. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the marker body is elongate, the electronic marker includes a ferrite core assembly, and said inserting step inserts the ferrite core assembly with a longitudinal axis thereof generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of the marker body.
4. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said sealing step includes the step of screwing an end cap onto an open end of the marker body.
5. (original) The method of Claim 4 wherein said sealing step further includes the step of bonding the end cap to the open end of the marker body.
6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) The method of Claim 6 1 wherein said securing step utilizes heat-shrink tubing to clamp the filaments together at the end of the marker body.

8. (currently amended) The method of Claim 6 1 further comprising the step of bundling portions of the filaments in different length sections with flags bearing height/depth indications.

9. (currently amended) An article comprising:

a casing;

an electronic marker sealed in an interior portion of said casing; and

a visual indicator attached to and extending away from said casing, wherein said visual indicator comprises a plurality of resilient filaments extending away from said casing.

10. (original) The article of Claim 9 wherein said casing is elongate, and said visual indicator extends away from said casing along a longitudinal axis thereof.

11. (original) The article of Claim 9 wherein said casing is elongate, and said electronic marker includes a ferrite core assembly having a longitudinal axis which is generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said casing.

12. (original) The article of Claim 9 wherein said electronic marker is a passive electronic marker.

13. (original) The article of Claim 9 wherein said casing includes an end cap which seals an open end of said casing.

14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) The article of Claim 14 9 wherein portions of the filaments are bundled in different length sections with flags bearing height/depth indications.

16. (currently amended) The article of Claim 14 9 wherein said casing has a tab at one end with a hole in said tab, and said plurality of filaments pass through said hole and are folded about said tab.

17. (original) The article of Claim 16 wherein said filaments are secured to said tab using a heat-shrink tube.

18. (currently amended) A surface tracker comprising:
a tubular marker body having an interior chamber, a lower end, and an upper end;
an electronic marker located inside said interior chamber of said tubular marker body; and
a visual indicator attached to said upper end of said tubular marker body and extending away from said tubular marker body, wherein said visual indicator comprises a plurality of resilient filaments.

19. (original) The surface tracker of Claim 18 wherein said lower end of said tubular marker body has an opening, and further comprising an end cap which seals said opening.

20. (original) The surface tracker of Claim 18 wherein said electronic marker is a passive electronic marker and includes a ferrite core assembly having a longitudinal axis which is generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said tubular marker body.

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) The surface tracker of Claim ~~24~~ 18 wherein portions of the filaments are bundled in different length sections with flags bearing height/depth indications.

23. (currently amended) The surface tracker of Claim ~~24~~ 18 wherein said filaments pass through a hole in a tab portion of said tubular marker body at said upper end thereof, and are folded about said tab portion to extend away from said tubular marker body and are secured to said tab portion using a heat-shrink tube.

24. (currently amended) The surface tracker of Claim ~~24~~ 18 wherein said filaments extend about six inches or more from said marker body.

25. (original) A surface tracker which provides electronic locatability and above-ground visual recognition, comprising:

- a generally cylindrical marker body having an interior chamber, a lower end, and an upper end, with an opening at said lower end and an integrally formed tab at said upper end, there being a hole formed in said tab;

- an end cap which is bonded to and seals said opening;

- a passive electronic marker located inside said interior chamber of said marker body, said electronic marker including a ferrite core assembly having a longitudinal axis which is generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of said marker body;

- a plurality of resilient filaments which pass through said hole in said tab of said marker body, said filaments being folded about said tab to extend away from said marker body; and

- means for securing said filaments to said tab.

26. (canceled)

27. (canceled)